(a) whether the bridge connecting Nettur and Panangad requires immediate repairs;

(b) when was this brought to the notice of the Government first;

(c) has any step been taken as yet to effect the necessary repairs and also to ward off people from danger till the repairs are effected?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—(a) The bridge is now in a dilapidated condition. It requires reconstruction as the whole structure is weak and defective.

(b) The fact that it was in a state of disrepair was brought to the notice of the Government on 26th Makaram 1109 when it was got repaired at a cost of Rs. 75. It has now been reported that it requires reconstruction.

(c) Till it is reconstructed it is proposed to put up fencing at both ends and to arrange a ferry service for the convenience of the public. Reconstruction of the bridge will cost Rs. 2,500 and will be done when the necessary funds are available.

Mr. A. Narayana Menon.— With reference to (b) when was it reported?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—A few months back.

Mr. A. Narayana Menon.—Was the Budget of the Department prepared at the time when the reoprt was made to the departmental head?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—It was brought to notice before the budget was prepared; but since this work will cost about Rs. 2,500/- we have requested the Public Works Department to take up the work.

Mr. A. Narayana Menon.— Has not the dilapidation caused considerable inconvenience to the people of Panangad and Nettur?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.— Yes. We have started there a ferry service now.

29. **Mr. A. Narayana Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the bridge between Nettur and Panagad is in a dangerous condition;

(b) when was this matter reported to the Government; has the bridge been repaired;

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(c) did the Government receive any petition on this subject ?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—(a) and (b). The attention of the Hon'ble Member is drawn to the answer furnished to Question No. 28 (a) and (b).

(c) No petition is traceable.

Mullasseri canal — Improvements to.

30. Mr. A. Narayana Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) when the work 'improvements to the Mullasseri canal leading from the fields to the Padiyath basin' was commenced;

(b) was the Mullasseri bridge demolished as a consequence; when was this done;

has it been constructed as yet;

(c) has the free passage of water from Karithala and Elamkulam wet lands westward to the backwater been largely blocked by the non-completion of the above work before the commencement of the monsoon and has this not adversely affected the prospects of successfull harvesting from these wet lands;

(d) what preventive step, if any, has the Government taken to minimise the extent of the losses?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) The work was commenced by the middle of Medam 1111.

(b) Yes.

3rd Edavam 1111.

Yes.

(c) No.

(d) Vide answer to (c).

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Am I to take it that the statement in (c) is incorrect?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I did not understand your question.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.— Has the Hon'ble Member for Engineering made any effort to find out the correctness or otherwise of the statement contained in subdivision (c)?

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